United Nations A/61/PV.44

General Assembly
Sixty-first session

Official Records

44th plenary meeting
Tuesday, 31 October 2006, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Ms. Al-Khalifa ..... (Bahrain)

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

In the absence of the President, Mr. Al-Murad (Kuwait), Vice-President, took the Chair.

Agenda item 133

Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/61/547)

The Acting President (*spoke in Arabic*): If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the report of the Fifth Committee that is before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The Acting President (*spoke in Arabic*): Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote. The positions of delegations regarding the recommendation of the Fifth Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members that, under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, that is, either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendation contained in the report of the Fifth Committee I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take a decision in the same manner as was done in the Fifth Committee.

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 8 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 61/9).

The Acting President (*spoke in Arabic*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 133.

Agenda item 103 (*continued*)

Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs

(a) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council

The Acting President (*spoke in Arabic*): The General Assembly will resume the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council to

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replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 2006.

As members will recall, when the 40th plenary meeting was adjourned on Wednesday afternoon, 25 October 2006, there still remained one seat from among the Latin American and Caribbean States to be filled.

In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, we shall now proceed to the next round of balloting by secret ballot. This forty-second round of balloting, in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure, will also be the twentieth unrestricted ballot.

For this forty-second round of balloting, may I remind the Assembly that any Member State from among the Latin American and Caribbean States may be a candidate except those outgoing members and those already members of the Security Council, namely, Argentina and Peru.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that, pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting.

We shall now begin the voting process. Members are requested to remain seated until all ballots have been collected.

Ballot papers marked "B" will now be distributed. May I ask representatives to write on the ballot papers marked "B", for the Latin American and Caribbean States, the name of the one State for which they wish to vote. Ballot papers marked "B" will be declared invalid if they contain the name of more than one State, as well as if they contain the name of a Member States which does not belong to that region.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Jumat (Brunei Darussalam), Mr. Sepúlveda (Chile), Mrs. Cerere (Kenya), Ms. Klausa (Poland) and Ms. Tardy-De Bortoli (Switzerland) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 10.25 a.m. and resumed at 10.50 a.m.

The Acting President (*spoke in Arabic*): The result of the voting is as follows:

Group B — Latin American and Caribbean States

Number of ballot papers:	186
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	186
Abstentions:	5
Required two-thirds majority:	121
Number of votes obtained:	
Guatemala	105
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	75
Uruguay	1

Since the result of this ballot has again been inconclusive, there still remains one seat to be filled from among the Latin American and Caribbean States. We must therefore proceed to the twenty-first unrestricted ballot.

For this forty-third round of balloting, may I remind the Assembly that any Member State from among the Latin American and Caribbean States may be a candidate except those outgoing members and those already members of the Security Council, namely, Argentina and Peru.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that, pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting.

We shall now begin the voting process. Members are requested to remain seated until all ballots have been collected.

Ballot papers marked "B" will now be distributed. May I ask representatives to write on the ballot papers marked "B", for the Latin American and Caribbean States, the name of the one State for which they wish to vote. Ballot papers marked "B" will be declared invalid if they contain the name of more than one State, as well as if they contain the name of a Member State which does not belong to that region.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Jumat (Brunei Darussalam), Mr. Sepúlveda (Chile), Mrs. Cerere (Kenya), Ms. Klausa (Poland) and Ms. Tardy-De Bortoli (Switzerland) acted as tellers.

The Acting President (*spoke in Arabic*): I ask members to cooperate as usual during the voting process. I wish to remind members that once the voting has begun, all lobbying activities in the Hall must stop. In particular, that means that no more election

propaganda materials should be distributed. I also ask all delegations to stay in their seats so that the voting process can proceed smoothly. I thank members for their cooperation.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 11 a.m. and resumed at 11.20 a.m.

The Acting President (*spoke in Arabic*): The result of the voting is as follows:

Group B — Latin American and Caribbean States	
Number of ballot papers:	191
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	191
Abstentions:	4
Required two-thirds majority:	125
Number of votes obtained:	
Guatemala	106
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	78
Ecuador	2
Jamaica	1

Since the result of this ballot has again been inconclusive, there still remains one seat to be filled from among the Latin American and Caribbean States.

We shall therefore proceed to the forty-fourth round of balloting, which is the twenty-second restricted ballot. This forty-fourth round of balloting shall be restricted to the two States from among the Latin American and Caribbean States which were not elected but obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, namely, Guatemala and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. This is in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that, pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting.

We shall now begin the voting process. Members are requested to remain seated until all ballots have been collected.

Ballot papers marked "B" will now be distributed. May I ask representatives to write on the ballot papers the name of the State for which they wish to vote. Ballot papers marked "B", for the Latin American and Caribbean States, will be declared invalid if they contain the name of a State other than Guatemala or the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, as well as if they contain the name of more than one State.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Jumat (Brunei Darussalam), Mr. Sepúlveda (Chile), Mrs. Cerere (Kenya), Ms. Klausa (Poland) and Ms. Tardy-De Bortoli (Switzerland) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 11.30 a.m. and resumed at 11.50 a.m.

The Acting President (*spoke in Arabic*): The result of the voting is as follows:

Group B — Latin American and Caribbean States	
Number of ballot papers:	190
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	189
Abstentions:	7
Required two-thirds majority:	122
Number of votes obtained:	
Guatemala	106
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	76

Since the result of this ballot has again been inconclusive, there still remains one seat to be filled from among the Latin American and Caribbean States. We shall therefore proceed to the forty-fifth round of balloting, which is the twenty-third restricted ballot.

This forty-fifth round of balloting shall be restricted to the two States from among the Latin American and Caribbean States which were not elected but obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, namely, Guatemala and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. This is in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that, pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting.

We shall now begin the voting process. Members are requested to remain seated until all ballots have been collected.

Ballot papers marked "B" will now be distributed. May I ask representatives to write on the ballot papers the name of the State for which they wish

to vote. Ballot papers marked "B", for the Latin American and Caribbean States, will be declared invalid if they contain the name of a State other than Guatemala or the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, as well as if they contain the name of more than one State.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Jumat (Brunei Darussalam), Mr. Sepúlveda (Chile), Mrs. Cerere (Kenya), Ms. Klausa (Poland) and Ms. Tardy-De Bortoli (Switzerland) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 12 p.m. and resumed at 12.15 p.m.

The Acting President (*spoke in Arabic*): The result of the voting is as follows:

Group B — Latin American and Caribbean States	
Number of ballot papers:	190
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	189
Abstentions:	7
Required two-thirds majority:	122
Number of votes obtained:	
Guatemala	104
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	78

Since the result of this ballot has again been inconclusive, there still remains one seat to be filled from among the Latin American and Caribbean States. We shall therefore proceed to the forty-sixth round of balloting, which is the twenty-fourth restricted ballot.

This forty-sixth round of balloting shall be restricted to the two States from among the Latin American and Caribbean States which were not elected but obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, namely, Guatemala and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. This is in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that, pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting.

We shall now begin the voting process. Members are requested to remain seated until all ballots have been collected.

Ballot papers marked "B" will now be distributed. May I ask representatives to write on the ballot papers the name of the State for which they wish to vote. Ballot papers marked "B", for the Latin American and Caribbean States, will be declared invalid if they contain the name of a State other than Guatemala or the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, as well as if they contain the name of more than one State.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Jumat (Brunei Darussalam), Mr. Sepúlveda (Chile), Mrs. Cerere (Kenya), Ms. Klausa (Poland) and Ms. Tardy-De Bortoli (Switzerland) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 12.25 p.m. and resumed at 12.40 p.m.

The Acting President (*spoke in Arabic*): The result of the voting is as follows:

Group B — Latin American and Caribbean States	
Number of ballot papers:	188
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	188
Abstentions:	8
Required two-thirds majority:	120
Number of votes obtained:	
Guatemala	101
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	79

Since the result of this ballot has again been inconclusive, there still remains one seat to be filled from among the Latin American and Caribbean States. We must therefore proceed to the twenty-second unrestricted ballot.

For this forty-seventh round of balloting, may I remind the Assembly that any Member State from among the Latin American and Caribbean States may be a candidate except those outgoing members and those already members of the Security Council, namely, Argentina and Peru.

Before we begin the voting process, I should like to remind members that, pursuant to rule 88 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order on the actual conduct of the voting.

We shall now begin the voting process. Members are requested to remain seated until all ballots have been collected.

Ballot papers marked "B" will now be distributed. May I ask representatives to write on the ballot papers marked "B", for the Latin American and Caribbean States, the name of the one State for which they wish to vote. Ballot papers marked "B" will be declared invalid if they contain the name of more than one State, as well as if they contain the name of a Member State which does not belong to that region.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Jumat (Brunei Darussalam), Mr. Sepúlveda (Chile), Mrs. Cerere (Kenya), Ms. Klausa (Poland) and Ms. Tardy-De Bortoli (Switzerland) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 12.50 p.m. and resumed at 1.05 p.m.

The Acting President (*spoke in Arabic*): The result of the voting is as follows:

Group B — Latin American and Caribbean States

Number of ballot papers:	190
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	189
Abstentions:	7
Required two-thirds majority:	122
Number of votes obtained:	
Guatemala	101
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	78
Barbados	1
Ecuador	1
Uruguay	1

This unrestricted ballot has again been inconclusive.

In accordance with the rules of procedure, we should continue with the series of unrestricted ballots. However, in view of the lateness of the hour, I propose that we postpone further balloting until tomorrow at 3 p.m.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.